

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace the claims of record with the following full set of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method, operable in a computer system, for analyzing of speech, the method causing the computer system to execute ~~comprising~~ the steps of:
 - inputting ~~of~~ a speech signal,
 - obtaining a ~~of the~~ first harmonic of the speech signal,
 - determining a ~~of the~~ phase-difference ($\Delta\phi$) between the speech signal and the first harmonic for centering a windowing function, wherein said phase difference is determined between a maximum of said speech signal and a phase zero of the first harmonic of the speech signal.
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, the determination of the phase difference comprising the steps of:
 - determining ~~[[the]]~~ a location of ~~[[a]]~~ said maximum of the speech signal,
 - ~~determining the phase difference between the maximum and phase zero of the first harmonic of the speech signal.~~
3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, whereby the speech signal is a diphone signal.
4. (Currently amended) A method for synthesizing speech, the method, operable in a computer system, comprising the steps of:

- selecting of windowed diphone samples, the diphone samples being windowed by a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle which is determined as ~~by~~ a phase difference between a maximum of said speech signal and ~~[[the]]~~ a zero crossing of a first harmonic of the speech signal, and
 - concatenating the selected windowed diphone samples.
5. (original) The method of claim 4, the speech signal being a diphone signal.
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, the window function being a raised cosine or a triangular window.
7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 further comprising inputting of information being indicative of diphones and a pitch contour, the information forming the basis for selecting of the windowed diphone samples.
8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, whereby the information is provided from a language processing module of a text-to-speech system.
9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
- inputting of speech,
 - windowing the speech by means of the window function to obtain the windowed diphone samples.

10. (Currently amended) A computer program product which when loaded into a computer system causes the computer system to perform ~~for performing~~ a method in accordance with claim 1.

11. (Currently amended) A speech analysis device comprising:

- means for inputting of a speech signal,
- means for obtaining ~~[[the]]~~ a first harmonic of the speech signal,
- means for determining ~~[[the]]~~ a phase difference ($\Delta\phi$) between the speech signal and the first harmonic for centering a window function, wherein said phase difference is determined between a maximum of said speech signal and a phase zero (ϕ_0) of the speech signal.

12. (Currently amended) The speech analysis device of claim 11, the means for determining the phase difference being adapted to determine:

~~[[a]]]]~~ the maximum of the speech signal ~~and to determine~~
~~a phase zero (ϕ_0) of the speech signal in order to determine the phase~~
~~difference between the maximum of the speech signal and the phase zero.~~

13. (Previously presented) The speech analysis device of claim 11, wherein the speech signal is a diphone signal.

14. (Currently amended) A speech synthesis device comprising:

- means for selecting of windowed diphone samples, the diphone samples being windowed by a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle which is determined ~~[[by]]~~ as a phase difference between a speech signal and ~~[[the]]~~ a first harmonic of the speech signal, , wherein said phase difference is determined between a maximum of said speech signal and a phase zero of the first harmonic of the speech signal
- means for concatenating the selected windowed diphone signals.

15. (original) The speech synthesis device of claim 14, wherein the speech signal is a diphone signal.

16. (Previously presented) The speech synthesis device of claim 14 the window function being a raised cosine or a triangular window.

17. (Previously presented) The speech synthesis device of claim 14 further comprising means for inputting of information being indicative of diphones and a pitch contour, the means for selecting the windowed diphones being adapted to perform the selection based on the information.

18. (Currently amended) A text-to-speech system comprising:

- language processing means for providing of information being indicative of diphones and a pitch contour,
- speech synthesis means comprising means for:

- selecting of windowed diphone samples based on the information, the diphone samples being windowed by a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle which is determined ~~[[by]]~~ as a phase difference between a maximum of said speech signal and a first harmonic of the speech signal; and
- means for concatenating the selected windowed diphone samples.

19. (original) The text-to-speech system of claim 18, whereby the window function is a raised cosine or a triangular window.

20. (Currently amended) A speech processing system comprising:

- means for inputting of a signal comprising natural speech signal,
- means for windowing the natural speech signal by means of a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle ~~which is~~ determined ~~[[by]]~~ as a phase difference between a maximum of said speech signal and ~~[[the]]~~ a first harmonic of the speech signal to provide windowed diphone samples,
- means for processing of the windowed diphone samples, and
means for concatenating the selected windowed diphone samples.